

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

~~This invention is directed to~~ Methods of predicting bone or joint disease in a
subject are presented. ~~The invention is also directed to~~ The method may include
determining one or more micro-structural parameters, one or more macroanatomical
parameters or biomechanical parameters of a joint in the subject. At least two of the
parameters are combined to predict the risk of bone or articular disease. Additionally,
methods of determining the effect of a candidate agent on any subject's risk of developing
bone or joint disease are presented.